



Scout reports

e-mail: thescout@hua.army.mil

West Point reception

A West Point Founders Day Reception, hosted by Maj. Gen. James Marks will be held from 6 to 8 p.m. Friday in the LakeSide Club Ballroom. For more information, call Capt. Jake Crawford or Marilyn Jones at 533-3504.

Employer Visit Day

The Army Career and Alumni Program will host an Employer Visit Day from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. March 18 at the ACAP Center. The ACAP Center is located at building 22420 on Butler Rd. Several local employers will be present to discuss employment opportunities and to take resumes. Employer Visit Day is open to military service members, family members, and civilians.

Relocation workshop

Smooth Move a relocation workshop for first-termers and their family members, will be held at 1:30 p.m., March 18 at Army Community Service, Building 50010. The workshop is designed to help ease the stress of making the first military move. Register no later than March 17 by calling ACS at 533-2330.

For more information, call Pam Allen at 533-5919.

Troops to Teachers

This federal program assists eligible military personnel transition to a new career as public school teachers in "high-need" schools. There will be a briefing on this program at 9 a.m., March 19, Room 9 in the Army Education Center.

For more information, call Sue Collins at 1-800-830-2134.

INSIDE



Sky high

Jumping out of a perfectly good airplane
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What's developing?

MWR Arts Center helps creativity grow
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Photos by Elizabeth Harlan

Could it be? Yes, daddy's home. Even though the flight of the returning Soldiers was delayed by several hours and landed shortly after 2 a.m., family members, such as Phillip Pacheco, 4, and his mom, Yvonne, were excited when the doors opened and their wait was over. The Pacheco family met husband and father Sgt. 1st Class Michael Pacheco.



Spc. Brian Peniston had his arms full with sons Nicholas, 4, and Christian, 2 after a long flight from the middle east.

Safe return

Signal Soldiers land in wee hours of morning

BY PFC. JOY PARIANTE
SCOUT STAFF

Soldiers from the 86th Signal Battalion returned home at 2:30 a.m. Friday after spending time in Camp Arifjan, Kuwait.

"You have responded to the call of duty with an exceptional performance," Col. Brian Hurley, commander, 11th Signal Brigade, told his Thunderbirds as they stood in formation at Barnes Field House, anticipating the moment they would be released to their families.

The Soldiers have been deployed for between three months and one year, said Maj. Robert L. Park, executive officer, 86th Signal Bn. "Some had returned and then redeployed," Park said.

Soldiers were members of a "push" team, Park said.

The push team helps a unit prepare to leave the theater of operation. This component of the 86th was in charge of preparing vehicles for redeployment, Park said. They had to wash the vehicles, prepare them for transport and have them inspected.

Although they have returned to the comforts of home, the lessons learned in Iraq will not soon be forgotten.

"I feel like I'm more patriotic," said Sgt. 1st Class Michael Pacheco. "As a Soldier, I'm going to try to do better and to do a little more [as a Soldier] each day."

"Iraq helped me realize how nice we have it as Americans," said Pfc. Justin Cady.

Hurley said this should be the last major group of 11th Signal Soldiers returning for a while. The unit still has Soldiers in Iraq, Afghanistan and Kuwait.

Inductees for Sgt. Audie Murphy, Dr. Mary Walker clubs honored

BY PFC. JOY PARIANTE
SCOUT STAFF

Two signal Soldiers were inducted into the Sergeant Audie Murphy Club and one signal spouse received the Dr. Mary Walker Award in a ceremony Friday at the Greely Hall auditorium.

The SAMC is an organization of non-commissioned officers who have demonstrated performance and inherent leadership qualities and abilities characterized by those of Staff Sgt. Audie Murphy, according to Training and Doctrine Regu-

lation 600-14.

Soldiers ranked corporal through sergeant first class can be recommended for consideration by their commander or first sergeant. If the Soldier passes both the initial selection and the post boards, they are eligible for induction.

Staff Sgt. Daniel L. Enyart, Company A, 86th Signal Battalion was the first inductee to take the stage. One of his Soldiers prepared a short speech stating why Enyart was a great candidate for the SAMC. "He radiates authority," the Soldier said. His attitude says, "Follow me, I

know the way."

"This has been my greatest accomplishment in the Army," Enyart said of his induction, "besides meeting my wife," he quickly added.

In a speech about another inductee Staff Sgt. Eric L. Luster, Company A, 40th Signal Bn., his Soldier commented on the "loyalty to his Soldiers and selfless service when it comes to accomplishing the mission."

"I am very honored," Luster said afterwards. "They [club members] are really sharp individuals and I look forward to sup-

porting the club. I'm fully behind what the club stands for."

Soldiers received: a Certificate of Achievement and Membership signed by the TRADOC commanding general and command sergeant major, a membership medallion for wear with the Army Class A uniform during official functions, a SAMC membership card and any local awards deemed appropriate by the post commanding general.

Staff Sgt. Audie Murphy was the

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Soldiers meet, pray at annual breakfast

BY SPC. SUSAN REDWINE
SCOUT STAFF

Soldiers from all over post gathered together Monday morning to take part in the National Prayer Breakfast at the LakeSide Activity Centre.

The annual breakfast is a tradition started by President Eisenhower and has been an example to follow ever since, said Chaplain (Col.) Richard Rogers, the installation staff chaplain, who has participated in 20 such breakfasts.

"We do it overseas and in war zones," he said. "It unites us as a group and is an important tradition."

The National Prayer Breakfast in Washington,

D.C. took place on Feb. 5 this year. Rogers said it's impossible for every unit to have the breakfast at the same time because each

unit has to plan around their mission.

"We're a nation at war," said Chaplain (Maj.) Kenneth J. Hancock, 111th Mili-



Courtesy photo

"How appropriate it is to take the time to pray for those who are deployed and those waiting for those who are deployed," said Chaplain (Maj.) Kenneth J. Hancock.

tary Intelligence Brigade chaplain and officer in charge of this year's breakfast on Fort Huachuca.

"How appropriate it is to take the time to pray for those who are deployed and those waiting for those who are deployed," said Hancock. "We call on God for his guidance and protection."

The guest speaker, Air Force Brig. Gen. Gregory J. Ihde, commander, 57th Wing, Nellis Air Force Base, urged attendees to remember all deployed Soldiers and their families at home.

He also spoke of the importance of servicemembers to be leaders and be good examples as Christians.

"Lead by example, al-

ways do the right thing because someone is always watching," Ihde said.

Command Sergeant Major Michael Allen of the 309th Military Intelligence Battalion said he attended the breakfast because he likes to pray.

"It's an important function for members of the military to have faith," he said.

Allen said he is praying especially this morning to end the war in Iraq so that Soldiers won't keep dying.

"So many soldiers are deployed defending people they'll never meet," said Hancock. "They're answering a calling to uphold the principles of freedom. It's appropriate to intervene on their behalf."

Commentary

Learning safety in a flash

BY CWO4 MICHAEL LICHOLAT
ARMY NEWS SERVICE

In the spirit of accident prevention, sometimes we have to step up to the plate and take one for the team. Here's my humbling story, shared with a bit of humor.

There I was, five minutes away from delivering a briefing for a complicated air assault mission in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. I had only one chance to make a good first impression in front of our coalition brethren, so I was determined to put my best foot forward.

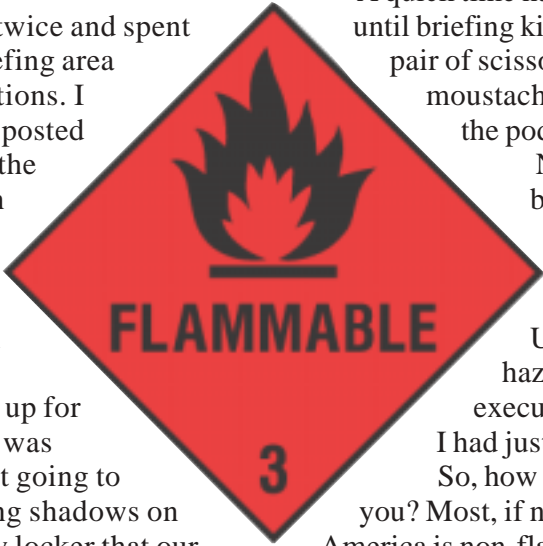
I rehearsed the mission briefing twice and spent considerable effort ensuring the briefing area was set up to my exacting specifications. I aligned all the benches, marked and posted all the charts and maps, and placed the manual pointer within arm's reach in case the laser pointer failed. With my notes at hand and the backup butcher posters and imagery, I was confident I could ace this brief even if the Proxima projector failed.

The projector had been warming up for a few minutes when I noticed there was some dust on the lens. Well, I wasn't going to stand for having a few specks casting shadows on my briefing! So, I went to the supply locker that our company S-4 dutifully kept stocked with administration supplies and got a can of compressed air to shoo away the offending motes.

We'd bought cases of the stuff before we deployed to blow the dirt and dust out of the cooling fans and circuit boards of our mission planning computers. We'd gone through our canned air like wildfire and were out of the "good stuff" we'd purchased back in the "Yoo Ess of Ay." However, our resourceful S-4 had replaced those with some canned air he'd bought in theater. I think it was from Italy, or somewhere else in Europe. Not being multi-lingual, I wasn't able to read the label.

I wasn't going to be bothered by that. I took the little plastic tube that came with the can and stuck it into the spray nozzle. I was thinking pleasant thoughts about how clear my presentation was going to be as I pointed the tube at the projector's lens. Those were my last pleasant thoughts.

I pushed down on the spray nozzle when suddenly there was a low-pitched boom. I was instantly engulfed in a ball of flame that one eyewitness conservatively estimated to be a good 6 feet in diameter. All the hair on my right arm was burned off, and the hair on my face was singed. Stunned, I dropped the can. The valve popped shut and the fire went out as quickly as it appeared.



After performing a quick assessment of my injuries, I left the briefing area for the tent where I slept, seeking a mirror so I could look for any additional damage. As I made my way out of the briefing tent amidst the arriving briefing attendants, the prominent comment was, "What is that smell?"

At my tent, my worst fears were confirmed—my moustache was now much shorter (but in direct compliance with AR 670-1!), my eyelashes were almost gone, and my eyebrow hairs were all curled up. Luckily, I'm what you'd call a "folically challenged" individual, so I didn't have anything on top to worry about.

A quick time hack revealed less than five minutes until briefing kick-off. I quickly washed up, used a pair of scissors to trim the burnt ends off my moustache and eyebrows, and then returned to the podium with a couple of minutes to spare.

Now I don't recommend this to anyone, but if you want to be calm when delivering a mission briefing, seek the feeling of euphoria that comes with no longer being a human torch.

Usually the mission briefing is the least hazardous element of the mission and the execution phase is fraught with peril. Sadly, I had just proved otherwise!

So, how can you avoid having this happen to you? Most, if not all, of the canned air sold in America is non-flammable and has warning labels to keep you from misusing the product. However, since we'd used up the "good stuff" we'd brought with us, the S-4—who is habitually browbeaten to keep the cupboards from becoming bare—replaced it with whatever was closest at hand. You know, the "You want canned air? I'll get you canned air!" approach.

Unfortunately, the S-4 couldn't read the label either. That's something to bear in mind if you're buying commercial off-the-shelf, or COTS items in countries that lack the consumer protection guidelines we have in America.

In the end, the fault lay squarely on my shoulders. I took an aerosol can of unknown origin and sprayed it onto a projector containing a very hot light bulb, which provided a source of ignition. Furthermore, despite the fact that the can had a picture of a cat and a dog on it (I still don't know what that's all about), the back of the label had the word "Peligroso!" printed on it. I'm pretty sure that means danger.

In the end, I got lucky and avoided a serious burn by the hair of my chinny, chin ... uh oh ... those chin hairs are gone now. In the spirit of brotherhood, my comrades later hung a sign over my desk extolling my new nickname: "Flash! Do you mind if I smoke?"

Chaplain's Corner

Never quit!

BY DAN DEVENY
DIRECTOR OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Sometimes when the going gets tough it's not uncommon to want to step off of the playing field...maybe throw up your hands in despair and look for some way to deal with your anguish. This article may be just what you need.

I had the chance to listen to a part of a true story that Chaplain (Capt.) Rick Winchester told me.

The story involves a young woman, Jesse, who had all of the hopes and desires of any young person who wanted to take a hold of life and squeeze all of the goodness out of it she could.

But a roadblock stood right in the middle of her life. Cancer was attacking her body with a vengeance. It would have been easy for Jessie to walk off of the playing field in discouragement, but Jessie was not about to give up. A stubbornness rose up in her that would not allow her to walk off of the playing field. She refused to be emotionally beaten down by this energy-sucking attack on her body.

Winchester recounted one of the many memorable moments with Jesse. "One morning I came to the hospital to sit with her and I could sense there was something different about her. How are you? I asked. And immediately she responded, 'I'm praying, and I want you to pray with me. I want us to pray that Jesus will heal me from this sickness.' She went on about the New Testament scripture that speaks of having faith for all situations. We took hold of each others hands and began to pray as if her life depended on it, and we couldn't get away from the two word phrase...keep on."

Winchester explained, "And so many of the days to come were spent in that same way: holding hands and praying. It wasn't a surrender to despair, but a yielding to certain hope. It was Jesse's ultimate commitment. For a year she had fought a courageous battle and lived in the strength of her faith. Now she had moved to another level of commitment. She prayed confidently and in hope until the battle was won."

Winchester concluded our conversation, "I think often of this experience with my daughter, Jesse, and wonder how I will face my own life and death situations if they are right before me. What I do know in light of this experience is that I am cultivating the kind of faith Jesse has; believing I will have the same courage and triumphant hope."

Scout On The Street

What advice would you give to junior Soldiers?



"Never walk by a deficiency without correcting it. If you don't have the means to correct it, get it. Find the means."

Command Sgt. Maj. Martin Glenn
525th Military Intelligence Brigade



"Study hard, both in military education and civilian education."

Command Sgt. Maj. Randy McMillan
308th MI Battalion



"Trust your instincts. We give them the training and the opportunity to succeed, it's your own instincts that will keep you alive. I've seen it several times in the field."

Command Sgt. Maj. Donald Mollett
519th MI Bn.



"Be a self-starter. Take initiative and take care of the troops under you so they'll take care of you."

Master Sgt. Sheila Randle
MI Augmentation Detachment



"There are three things, all equally important. One, enjoy doing what you're doing. Two, take care of your family doing what your doing. Three, be competant at what you're doing."

Command Sgt. Maj. Edwin Storch
310th MI Bn.



"Put forth the same energy in your job as you would your personal issues."

Sgt. Maj. Mark Warner
18th Airborne Corps

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AFAP starts with teen session, young people discuss issues

BY SPC. SUSAN REDWINE
SCOUT STAFF

Teenagers from around post came together Saturday to discuss issues relating to teen life in an all-day conference at the Youth Services Center. The Teen Army Family Ac-

tion Plan conference is put on, "...to recognize issues important to teens at Fort Huachuca and report to the community the solutions they come up with," said Andrea Sovern, the AFAP and Army Family Team Building manager on post. "The issues that come for-

ward are the issues of the community and it is the community's voice that will be heard through this process," said Sovern.

Sovern said the fort teen center itself is the result of past years' conferences. She also said the computer lab and youth sports programs came about as the results of AFAP conferences.

Marty Marks, wife of Commanding General James "Spider" Marks, has been actively involved with the teen AFAP conference for the past 11 years. She said she keeps coming back because she sees the difference it makes. "This is the best program the Army has," she said. "We've convinced a lot of people that it makes a difference."

Miguel Lozada is a senior at Buena High School in Sierra Vista and has been a delegate at the conference for the past two years. He said that many issues from last year's conference were addressed well.

"Overall, they did a good job in taking care of quality [of the issues] in a timely manner," he said. Lozada said one issue being discussed at this year's conference is the problems children from military families have in transferring credits when switching schools as the family moves. First-time volunteer Elise Dewey said she was unaware of some of the issues teens face until they were being discussed at the conference. "I didn't know there was such a big discussion of [teen] employment on post," she said. Dewey also said transportation for teens was an issue being discussed at the conference. "We need transportation that goes around post for different activity places," she said. Overall, the teen volunteers found the conference educational and enjoyable. "It's a good thing to come out and volunteer for," said Lozada.



Photo by Spc. Susan Redwine

More than 20 teens met Saturday to discuss issues concerning their age group. Steven Bockrader, Buena High School 11th grader, Elise Dewey, center and Ashley Brown, both 9th graders from Buena donated their time to help with the discussion.

Spit, clean, polish - all in day's work

BY SPC. SUSAN REDWINE
SCOUT STAFF

Just about every Soldier coming through Fort Huachuca will go through dental processing. That means that just about every Soldier on post will pass through the care of at least one of the many dental assistants that work at Runion Dental Clinic.

Much of the behind-the-scenes work in the dental clinic is performed by dental assistants.

Their duty consists of many things, including aiding dentists in a myriad of procedures, x-ray and records maintenance, said Pfc. Adin C. Schnurman, a dental assistant at RDC. A Soldier might have additional duties around the clinic as well, such as being the housekeeping non-commissioned officer, she said.

For some, being a dental assistant is a life-long dream.

"Ever since my sophomore year of high school, I've wanted to be in dentistry," said Schnurman. "I do what I've always wanted to do every day."

Schnurman said she trained for eight weeks at Fort Sam Houston, Texas, in order to be a dental assistant. She said the training wasn't difficult for her because she had taken a dental aide class in high school, which helped out during her Army training.

Schnurman said she chose to be a Soldier because she was interested in financial assistance for college. In the civilian world, dental assistants need college degrees and need to be certified, she said. Being a dental assistant in the Army is a good stepping stone toward becoming a dental assistant outside the Army.

The RDC has civilian dental assistants working as well.

Terri Mueller, a civilian dental assistant

at the clinic, said she stumbled into her career field while with her husband, who was a Soldier stationed in Germany. Although it wasn't a career she had planned on getting into, she ended up spending many years as a dental assistant.

Mueller said she was a licensed practical nurse by education, but the only position she could find available at the time was as a dental assistant and she learned on the job. She said she was lucky to get the job and her background in nursing helped her learn the skills needed as a dental assistant.

"When I applied, there was not another qualified dental assistant applying. A few months later, there were six," she said.

With as much experience as Mueller has, she ought to know good dental care

when she sees it.

"The personnel here at the clinic are experienced," said Mueller. "They [the Soldiers coming to the clinic] will get excellent care."

Schnurman noted that many people are afraid to go to the dentist.

"A lot come in and are scared. I just talk to them to try to get them relaxed," said Schnurman. "Don't be nervous, it's not half as bad as you think it is."

Both are glad about Dental Assistants Recognition Week this week.

Schnurman said, "It's good to know you're being appreciated for all the hard work you do."

Said Mueller, "It makes it more than just a job."



Photo by Spc. Susan Redwine

Dr. Ronald Nash, retired Navy dentist and Joyce Erickson, dental assistant, are two of the more than 20 care providers at Runion Dental Clinic.

INDUCTEES, from Page 1

most decorated U.S. combat Soldier of World War II. He was credited with killing more than 240 enemy Soldiers, was wounded three times and fought in nine major campaigns across the European theater.

Beginning his enlistment as a private, Murphy quickly rose to the rank of staff sergeant and received a battlefield commission as a second lieutenant for his courage and leadership abilities.

He died at 46 in a plane crash and was buried at Arlington National Cemetery. His grave is the second most visited in Arlington.

The Dr. Mary Walker award is given to "military spouses who help the Army significantly by volunteering and through strong support of the family readiness group," said Master Sgt. Matthew Miller, president of the Fort Huachuca branch of the SAMC, which is also involved in the selection process of Dr. Mary Walker award recipients.

This year's recipient was

Sherrell Pippen, 86th Signal Bn. Family Readiness Group. Pippen took an active part in everything from sending care packages to stuffing Christmas stockings to making goodie bags for the Soldiers' trips overseas.

"It's just an outstanding privilege to be accepted amongst those who've received the award before me," Pippen said. "I'm very honored. There are many people behind the scenes

who deserve this with me."

Dr. Mary Walker was one of the first female doctors and tried to acquire a commission with the Army as a surgeon during the Civil War, but was denied because she was a woman. She volunteered at various hospitals throughout the war and as a field surgeon up and down the Union lines. She eventually became the assistant surgeon with the 52nd Ohio Infantry Regiment. She

was a prisoner of war for four months and awarded the Medal of Honor after the war. She was the only woman in United States history to receive the Medal of Honor.

Walker's Medal of Honor was revoked in 1917 after Congress changed the requirements for the award. She still wore the medal until her death in 1919. After reviewing her case, President Jimmy Carter reinstated her Medal of Honor in 1977.



Staff Sgt. Daniel L. Enyart



Staff Sgt. Eric L. Luster



Sherrell Pippen



Service News

Marines return to Iraq

The Marine Corps is answering the call to duty overseas as part of Operation Iraqi Freedom II. Over the next year, Marines and sailors will conduct security and stability operations in western Iraq to help the Iraqi people establish an Iraq that is unified, stable and at peace with itself and its neighbors.

SECNAV urges sailors, Marines to vote

In his Feb. 9 message to the fleet, Secretary of the Navy Gordon R. England encouraged everyone to make sure their voice is heard in November.

"You wear the cloth of the nation, and defend democracy and the right of all Americans to vote," he said. "I encourage all of you to register to vote this year."

"In our country, we have the right to vote as a result of past and present sacrifices of U.S. servicemen and women like you," England stressed. "You've earned this right, and your vote counts."

Master-At-Arms rating filling fast

Sailors interested in joining the master-at-arms rating still have plenty of opportunities, but personnel officials say the rating is growing fast and will soon be reaching capacity.

The rating has grown significantly in the past few years, going from under 2,000 in September of 2002, to nearly 8,000 people at present.

The areas of greatest need are petty officers with three to nine years of service and chief petty officers with 15 to 18 years of service.

Fitzgerald sailors save drowning woman

Four Sailors from USS Fitzgerald (DDG 62) rescued a 19-year-old woman from drowning Feb. 15. The woman allegedly jumped from the Coronado Bay Bridge and landed 30 yards from Fitzgerald after a 200-foot fall.

The sailors who acted in this situation were able to save a life by using their Navy-learned skills in a real-life emergency. The woman suffered only minor injuries and is expected to make a full recovery.

Reform in National Guard

Governors will be able to call on at least 50 percent of their National Guard forces for homeland-defense missions and other state emergencies because of a plan to realign Army and Air Guard units during the next few years, the chief of the National Guard Bureau said.

The intent is to have no more than 50 percent of the 460,000-person Guard force involved in the nation's warfighting effort at any given time. With this, between 50 and 75 percent of the force can be available on a no-notice, immediate basis for missions on their home turf.

Personnel services now on AF Portal

The days where people need to remember numerous user IDs and passwords for basic online personnel services are coming to an end thanks to the Air Force Portal, <http://www.my.af.mil>.

By logging on to the Air Force Portal, users will have "reduced sign-on" access to 14 of the most used personnel Web services.

Maintaining deep-strike capability

In a March 3 testimony before the House Armed Services Committee subcommittee on projection forces, Air Force Vice Chief of Staff Gen. T. Michael Moseley said the Air Force must continue to maintain its deep-strike capability.

"(Deep strike) must be defined as the capability to achieve the desired effects rapidly and persistently upon any target set in any environment, anywhere, at any time," General Moseley said. "Simply said, we must continue to be able to hold any enemy target set at risk at any point on the Earth."

Fraud, scams

Government credit cards may be targeted

BY LAURIE PACKARD
PROGRAM MANAGER, GOVERNMENT PURCHASE CARD PROGRAM
FORT HUACHUCA

Recently there have been several reports of external fraudulent activity targeted toward or affecting the government charge card programs. This affects both the travel and government purchase cards. Although we do not have a problem at Fort Huachuca with the GPC, we need to be security conscious at all times.

If the bank notifies you about possible fraud, follow their instructions, but don't give them your account number unless you call them back at toll free number listed on the back of your card. We will not be held accountable for fraud beyond our control, but we must do our part to limit the opportunities for fraud. Please adhere to the following security measures in order to safeguard our accounts:

- Do not give out account information in response to a fraudulent e-mail indicating it is from Visa officials, stating that cardholders have to "reactivate" their accounts due to a "technical security update." The e-mail

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Photo by Air Force Master Sgt. Lance S. Cheung

Students at the Military Free Fall School learn High Altitude Low Opening and High Altitude High Opening infiltration techniques.

Free falling

from a sixty second classroom

BY SPC. MATTHEW E. CHLOSTA
SCOUT STAFF

Free fall – Webster’s dictionary defines free fall as, “unchecked fall through the air, especially, part of parachutist’s jump before parachute opens.”

But, instructors at the United States Army John F. Kennedy Special Warfare Center Military Free Fall School at Yuma Proving Ground, Ariz. define free fall as their ‘sixty second classroom.’

According to www.globalsecurity.org, military free fall parachute operations are used to infiltrate enemy areas under the cover of darkness to avoid detection. Infiltration of opera-



Photo by Spc. Matthew E. Chlosta

Jose Reyes, life support technician, Military Free Fall School, MFFS students and instructors pack their parachutes at Daly Terminal before any jump.

tional elements, pilot teams and personnel replacements are conducted under the cover of darkness, varying weather conditions and terrain. MFF parachutists land at their objective as a combat-ready, tactical unit.

Commenting on how MFF gives the United States military an advantage on the battlefield, Sgt. Maj. Thomas Hedges, chief instructor, MFF School said, “Unlike a static line operation, a small team can insert using high altitude techniques deep behind enemy lines, which gives less exposure to the air crew from threats on the ground. The small Special Forces units get out of the plane, group in the air and land in a small group in a designated area.”

“It[MFF School] started at Fort Bragg[N.C.] in the early 1970’s during the last years of the Vietnam conflict,” said Retired Special Forces Master Sgt. Jose Reyes, MFF School life support technician, tandem instructor

“Military free fall was originally developed and used in Vietnam to get guys into Laos,” Hedges said, “to utilize information gathered by special forces on enemy supply lines and to guide in bombers so the command of U.S. forces could provide adequate ground coverage.”

MFF is considered by some to be one of the military’s most demanding and potentially hazardous advanced skills.

“During a HALO[High Altitude Low Opening] jump you exit the aircraft pretty much over the area you want to land, within a couple of kilometers, give or take depending on the winds,” Reyes said. “On a HAHO[High Altitude High Opening] jump you can exit the aircraft miles away from the intended landing area and navigate using your parachute to get there.”

Instructors

Today the MFF School is made up of nearly 80 military and

civilian instructors, who train approximately 1000 students annually.

Instructors go to both the advanced and jumpmaster courses, Reyes said.

“They are selected at their respective parent units or at Department of the Army level,” Reyes said. “Civilian instructors go through the same training as the military ones. Instructors must have one hundred or more jumps before they qualify for the instructor course.

“The advanced [MFF] course students learn advance free fall techniques like in air instruction and how to assist a jumper in free fall,” Reyes said. “The jumpmasters learn how to control jumpers in the aircraft with hand signals and to determine the release point.”

Being a MFF School instructor is an exclusive club as there have only been 510 instructors ever rated, Reyes said, (Reyes is #351).

The students come exclusively from all the military services’ elite special operations units, including: Army Green Berets and Rangers, Navy SEALs, Marine RECON and Air Force Combat Controllers and Pararescue, to learn free fall parachuting techniques.

‘The most dangerous classroom in the world’

The school teaches three different classes throughout the year; approximately 10 Basic MFF classes a year; four Advanced MFF courses per year and 10 Jumpmaster MFF courses, according to Reyes.

The instructors and students call it the ‘sixty second classroom,’ since that is the time of free fall from exiting the aircraft at 12,500 feet until chute deployment.

Instructors actually teach the students in the sky during their simultaneous free fall descent, using various hand signals and videotape critiques after the landing.

“A picture shows a thousand words, but video shows a million,” said FAA Master Rigger, Chuck Sims, MFF School aerial life support equipment mechanic and former MFF School instructor. “Video is a training tool showing what they should be doing to critique the student.”

The Basic MFF course student makes about three jumps per day and 30 jumps per class. There are approximately 50 students per class.

Instructors usually make five or six per day, an average of 50 jumps per class.

“The training is outstanding,” said basic MFF course student, Air Force Staff Sgt. Chuck Rushing, static line jumpmaster, Detachment 5, 10th Combat Weather, Fort Bragg, N.C. “Instructors are skilled experts in the course. I’m nervous trying to make sure I do everything I was taught to do. They tell us to have a good time. The biggest thing they tell you is to relax.”

Before jump operations start every morning, the Marshalling Area Command Officer gives a 5:30 a.m. pre-jump brief to all the students and instructors in the Daly Terminal Building, which is the staging and parachute system preparation area for the MFF School.

During the day’s jumps and afterward, the MFF School instructors also give; more sustained airborne training; instruction and an after action review after the students and instructors land at the Phillips Drop Zone.

The students are filmed during their jumps by a second instructor with a helmet-mounted digital video camera, while the main instructor teaches the student in the, ‘most dangerous classroom on earth,’ how to free fall; keep their body stable; hand and arm signals; when and how to deploy the main parachute and how to do a cutaway, which deploys the reserve chute, if necessary.

The Basic MFF course is four weeks long. The first week for the Basic MFF course is called ground week and it is held at Fort Bragg, N.C.

At Fort Bragg the students attend classes, do free fall simulator training in the only vertical wind tunnel in the Department of Defense and learn and practice parachute packing.

After the first week, the students are flown to Yuma, Ariz. to finish the last three weeks of the Basic MFF course at the MFF School on Yuma Proving Grounds, approximately 20 miles north of Yuma.

“I’m pretty excited, I’m stoked,” said basic MFF course student, Airman 1st Class Jeremiah Roberts, combat controller, 23rd Special Tactics Squadron, Hulbert Field, Fla. “I’ve been

wanting to jump for a long time. It makes you more valuable, more well rounded [and] another skill you have.”

The students have 6-8 free fall jumps to get through the first graded exercise otherwise they are dropped from the course and sent back to their unit, according to Reyes.

“Only about five percent don’t make it,” Reyes said.

The second week includes: more classes on pre-jump HALO and HAHO procedures, MFF night navigation planning, body control, harness, HALO, HAHO (where wind direction and speed will determine the glide ratio) and canopy control. The students will make 10-12 jumps in their second week, and all jumps will be from 12,500 feet with additional gear.

“I’m enjoying it, all the instructions have been very thorough,” said basic course, MFF student, Airman 1st Class Stephen Savell, pararescue jumper, Kirtland AFB, Albuquerque, N.M. “The instructors are relaxed professionals. Airborne is, ‘just don’t get hurt.’ This is fun, a confidence builder.”

“The instructors jump with civilian systems that are designed to deploy safely at a lower altitude than the students,” Reyes said.

“This ensures that the student’s chute is deployed and the instructor can evaluate the student’s deployment technique,

See **FREE FALL**, Page 6



Photo by Spc. Matthew E. Chlosta

Basic Military Free Fall School students, Navy Petty Officer Jason Hickman, SEAL Team 4, Little Creek Amphibious Base, Va., left, Navy Lt. Matt McGraw, SEAL Team 4, Little Creek Amphibious Base, Va., center, and Air Force Staff Sgt. Chuck Rushing, Detachment 5, 10th Combat Weather, Fort Bragg, N.C., were trained at the MFFS at Yuma Proving Ground, Ariz., to check the emergency opening device’s computer liquid electronic display on each other’s reserve parachutes, to ensure it’s turned on and functioning.

Knock out



Breaking more than bones

Army: Don’t suffer in silence, help available

BYAMANDABAILLIE
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Women who are affected by domestic abuse are being urged not to suffer in silence.

Help is at hand and you are certainly not alone, say local agencies who can offer aid to anyone who finds herself in an abusive relationship.

The Army Community Service at Fort Huachuca is willing and able to help military wives and female soldiers, whether they are victims of violence or sexual and emotional abuse.

“If you are suffering domestic abuse, then please seek help in dealing with it,” said Marjorie Loya, Family Advocacy Program Manager with ACS. “We are certainly not saying that there is more domestic violence within the military, but there are certain situations within military life that can result in it.”

Long separations due to operational deployments, coupled with the isolated location of Fort Huachuca, can be contributing factors, explained Loya.

“The military is trying to do as much as it can to prepare its soldiers for their reunions with their wives and families,” she said. “But if a couple doesn’t have good communication between them in the first place, then the separation can just pull them further apart.

“Soldiers can come home with certain expectations and if

the wife doesn’t meet them, then there can be conflict.

“Also, when the husband has been away for a long time, it’s up to the wife to make all the decisions and she will get herself into a routine. But all this changes when the soldier returns and, of course, the longer you are apart the longer it can take to readjust.”

In a location like Fort Huachuca, and in a country as large as the United States, wives can often find themselves a long way from home and family.

“When you’re back home you can access relatives and friends, but you don’t have that immediate support when you are living away,” said Loya, a military wife for 24 years. “On the other hand, the military environment can often offer a lot more support services than there would be in civilian life.”

She added: “Foreign born wives, in particular, can find themselves very isolated. They have no idea what their rights are and they can be too afraid to come forward because of the language barrier. They can also feel that a roof over their heads and food is a better option than being sent home, which is what they think will happen if they seek help.”

Anyone who does seek help will be referred to a victim advocate, who will assess the home situation and deal with any safety issues or medical treatment first.

The woman can then be returned home, and the Soldier moved out to barracks, or she can be temporarily housed in a shelter.

Loya and her team work closely with the staff at the Forgach House

Domestic Crisis Center in Sierra Vista and sometimes refer victims there.

If a woman discloses that she has been a victim of violence, then ACS must report it. A case-worker will then work closely with the Soldier’s unit to resolve the situation.

Wives, however, are never advised on what they should do about the abusive relationship.

“We offer counselling sessions and we will tell women what their options are and their rights,” said Loya. “But we can help them with things like re-

straining orders, financial resources and jobs. Then it is up to the spouse to decide what they want to do with the relationship.”

For more information call the Army Community Service at 533-2330.

Forgach House offers solace

BYAMANDABAILLIE
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The staff at the Forgach House Domestic Crisis Shelter works tirelessly to help victims of domestic abuse. At the helm is Program Director Tonianne Goebel, who started as a volunteer when the shelter first opened its doors in 1983.

The building has 40 beds for women and their children and relies on Government funding and donations, both in cash and goods, to keep going.

The immediate aim of the shelter and its 26 staff members is to provide a safe haven for female victims of physical, economic, sexual and emotional abuse.

Case-workers will then try, where possible, to maintain and strengthen families in crisis, through practical support and education.

“Women without children can stay here for up to 45 days and those with children can stay for up to 120,” said Goebel. “We won’t just put someone on the street after that but we will try and find them another place to go and we work closely with other agencies. We also never tell a woman to get a divorce or to break the relationship, but we do always tell them they can come back here any time.”

Goebel is keen to emphasise that domestic abuse does not necessarily mean a woman has been physically hurt.

“Domestic abuse is about power and control, whether that be verbal, sexual, emotional or violent,”

she explained. “It could involve a man sending his wife out to work and taking her pay check, or not allowing her to work at all.

“There’s also isolation, particularly in a place like Arizona, where they don’t allow the wife to have any contact with anyone or make friends.”

Around 10 military wives are referred to the shelter every year.

“When the husband goes away for a long time the woman becomes the decision maker,” said Goebel. “Then the husband suddenly returns and it can be hard to readjust.

“Many servicemen also marry foreign wives, bring them back here and isolate them. I’ve had women here who have been told by their husbands there is no support for them, that they are stupid and because they don’t speak the right language no-one will help them.

“We even had one woman who was told if she went through the main gate of the Fort, she would be arrested.”

A close relationship with the fort has also resulted in generous, and very welcome, donations and fundraising events by the military.

“When a woman comes to us, she does not have to spend a single penny,” said Goebel. “Everything is provided, from meals and toiletries to clothes and even washing powder.”

For more information, call the Forgach House at 458-9096, 24 hours a day.

The shelter also takes donations of a wide range of items, including household supplies, toiletries, clothes, baby equipment and toys.



Not a victim forever

Life can change with help, courage

BYAMANDABAILLIE
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Maria Morrill will always be grateful for the life changing help she received from Forgach House.

Fourteen years ago she and her four children were referred to the shelter when she decided she could not stay in an abusive relationship any longer.

Morrill, 48, said: “I was living in Bisbee at the time and my husband was diagnosed with cancer. He became extremely verbally abusive and took everything out on the children and me.

“In the end it got to the point where I couldn’t take it any longer and I decided to get help.”

Morrill, now a grandmother of five, admits it was a very hard decision to make and she remembers feeling frightened when she arrived at Forgach House.

“It was very scary. I didn’t know

anyone and I didn’t know what it was going to be like. I thought I would end up on the streets.”

But with the help of the staff Morrill worked hard to make a life for herself and her young family, accessing the resources available to her and eventually moving into a trailer furnished with the help of the shelter.

She also got a job – as a cook at Forgach House.

“I don’t know where I would have been without them, they gave me everything I needed,” said Morrill, who has a son in the Navy and a son-in-law in the Army.

“I didn’t even know how to write a check, but they taught me everything. Now I find it rewarding to be able to give something back.”

She added, “I would encourage anyone in a similar situation to get help. Take the courage, step out and get the help.”

Community Updates

Range Closures

Today – AA, AC, AD, AG, AH, AK, AL, AM, AN, AR, AU, AW, AX, AY
Friday – AA, AC, AD, AH, AK, AL, AM, AR, AU, AW, AY
Saturday – AB, AK, AL, AR, AW, T1, T1A, T2
Sunday – AU
Monday – AL, AM, AP, AU, AW, AY
Tuesday – AH, AK, AL, AP, AR, AU, AW, AY, T1, T1A, T2
Wednesday – AC, AD, AK, AL, AM, AN, AP, AR, AU, AW, AY, T1, T1A, T2
For more information, call Range Control at 533-7095.

Road work

The Contract Management Division of the Directorate of Installation Support is repairing driveways in Deanza Village and repairing Meyer Street between H Avenue and Rucker Street. Construction began Monday and is expected to be finished by April 9. Housing occupants will be able to have vehicular access to their quarters during construction.
For more information, call 533-1443.

Financial readiness classes

Army Community Services will offer financial readiness classes noon - 1 p.m., Wednesday, March 24 and 30 at Murr Community Center. These lunch-time classes will cover the following: Wednesday, checkbook management; March 24, budgeting and family supplemental subsistence allowance; and March 30, thrift savings plan.
For more information call ACS at 533-2330.



ASMC luncheon

Bill Hess from the Sierra Vista Herald Dispatch will speak to the Cochise Chapter of American Society of Military Comptrollers at 11:30 a.m. March 17 in the Skyler Room at the LakeSide Activity Centre.
The presentation topic will be Media and Military Madness: A Rocky Partnership. Cost is \$9 for ASMC members, \$10 for nonmembers and includes buffet lunch. Members of the public are welcome to attend.
For more information and reservations, call Linda Guinter at 456-2961.

Emergency planning meeting

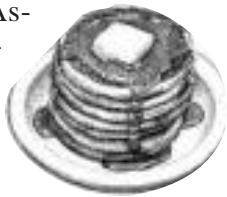
The Cochise County Local Emergency Planning Committee’s regular monthly meeting will be held at 1:30 p.m., March 19 in Room 200 of the Science Building at Cochise College, 901 Colombo Street, in Sierra Vista. The public is invited to attend.
For more information, call Bob Bobar at 432-9550.

FRG training

Family Readiness Group training will be offered from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m., March 19 at Army Community Service. This training will cover the basic policies and procedures of running an FRG.
Register no later than March 18 by calling at ACS 533-2330 or 533-5919.

Pancake breakfast

The Fort Huachuca Sergeant Major Association will hold an all you can eat pancake breakfast from 6 to 11 a.m. March 20 at the Landmark Café. Tickets are \$2, available from any association member and at the door.



AFTB Level II

Army Community Service will present Army Family Team Building Level II classes 5:30 - 9 p.m., March 22, 24, 29, 31, and April 5 at Murr Community Center. AFTB Level II is a series of 19 classes, ranging from understanding Army life to enhancing leadership skills. Some of the classes that will be taught are time management, family support groups, enhancing relationship building, and conflict management.
For more information, call ACS at 533-2330.

FRG concept training

Starting this month, Army Community Service will begin conducting “concept block” training for Family Readiness Groups. The training will enhance your capabilities as an FRG leader. This month’s training will consist of Introduction to Effective Leadership and Meeting Management, which will be offered 9 a.m. - 11 a.m., March 23 and 9 a.m. - 11 a.m., March 27.

Register no later than the day prior to each class by calling ACS at 533-2330.

Blood drive

The American Red Cross Blood will conduct a blood drive from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. March 25 and from 1 to 7 p.m. March 26 at Eifler Gym.

Women’s luncheon

The Fort Huachuca Women’s History Month Luncheon will be held from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., March 25 at the Lakeside Activity Centre. The theme is: “Women inspiring hope and possibility.” Sierra Vista Councilwoman Carol Dockter will be the guest speaker. Tickets are \$8.00 and must be purchased in advance.
For more information or to buy tickets, call the Military Equal Opportunity Office at 533-1717 or 533-3696.

Scholarship

Application forms for the \$1000 Shirley Hinkley Scholarship are available at Buena High School and the Fort Huachuca Thrift Shop. All applications must be postmarked no later than April 6.
For more information, call the manager at 458-4606.

Stolen computer equipment

The Fort Huachuca Criminal Investigation Division is investigating the theft of a Dell Inspiron 5000 laptop computer, serial number 9QARA, and a Dell Dimension 4100 Workstation, serial number D3FL201.
The computer was stolen between Jan. 26 and 27 from Room 104 , Building 53321. A \$500 reward is being offered for information leading to the identification, arrest and conviction of the person(s) responsible for the theft.
For more information, call CID at 533-5202 or the military police at 533-3000.

Found equipment

Some military equipment was found on approximately Feb. 21 or Feb. 22 at an off-post apartment complex. To the claim the equipment you must call Sgt. Maj. Maurice A. Mitchell at 533-1174.
You will need to describe the equipment and the location where you lost it to reclaim it.

Deployed troops can earn 10 percent on savings

BY SGT. 1ST CLASS MARCIA TRIGGS
ARMY NEWS SERVICE

A Department of Defense program helps deployed troops tuck up to \$10,000 of their income away and earn a guaranteed 10 percent interest on their savings annually.
Troops can participate in the Savings Deposit Program if they are assigned outside the United States and receiving Hostile Fire and Imminent Danger Pay. Service members must serve 30 consecutive days in that assignment before making deposits into the fund.
“We have our Soldiers start the program while in theater,” said 1st Sgt. Edward Menke, from 125th Finance Battalion, Schofield Bar-

racks, Hawaii. Soldiers from the 25th Infantry Division (Light) out of Hawaii are currently serving in Iraq and Afghanistan. Menke said that when he informs Soldiers and their families of the benefits of the Savings Deposit Program he tells them to look at their bank statements. If they are earning less than 10 percent interest on their savings, he tells them to look into the program.
“Spouses are really receptive to the program,” Menke said. “Their savings will earn a guaranteed 2.5 percent interest quarterly.”
Nearly 10,000 Soldiers are currently participating in the program, said Roger Castillo, the program manager for the Savings Deposit Program.

The last day to make a deposit into the fund is the date of departure from theater. However interest will accrue up to 90 days after redeployment unless a withdrawal is requested, according to a DFAS fact sheet.
Service members can contribute more than \$10,000, but interest will not accrue on any amount over the cap, Castillo said. If the account exceeds \$10,000, the service member may make quarterly withdrawals, until his eligibility to make deposits terminates. Then he must withdraw the remaining funds in its entirety, the fact sheet stated.
Withdrawing the money before redeploying is not authorized unless, the service member needs to make an emergency withdrawal.

Emergency requests must be for the health and welfare of a member or his family member, and must be substantiated by a written request from the member’s commander, Castillo said.
DFAS will post the SDP balance of active-component members to their Leave and Earnings Statement.
The fund was started in August 1990 for members who were serving in the Persian Gulf Conflict, and Soldiers fighting in Operation Iraqi Freedom were added to those eligible to participate in 2003.
For more information service members should contact their finance battalion, Castillo said.

DoD establishes additional sexual assault hot line

DOD NEWS SERVICE

The Department of Defense announced March 4 that an additional toll-free telephone number has been established for individuals who want to contact or provide information to the Department of Defense Task Force

on Care for Victims of Sexual Assault. The number, (800) 497-6261, is staffed from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. EST, Monday through Friday. The department’s hot line will supplement those previously established by each of the services.
Defense Secretary Donald H.

Rumsfeld this month ordered a senior-level inquiry into the reported sexual assaults in Iraq and Kuwait, and how the armed services treat victims of sexual assault. The Army and Air Force have opened similar investigations.
Under Secretary of Defense for

Personnel and Readiness David S.C. Chu said that the findings of the 90-day review are due by April 30th.
“Every servicemember deserves to be treated with the utmost respect and dignity,” Chu said. “Sexual assault is criminal conduct and will not be tolerated in the Department of

Defense.”
Chu believes the information from the call center will assist the task force and defense officials in developing policies and programs to improve assistance for victims of assaults and enhance efforts at prevention.

FREE FALL, from Page 4

then land first and evaluate the student’s landing technique from the ground.”
The instruction in the sky takes place from the time the student and instructor exit the aircraft, till the student’s parachute deploys, Reyes said. The basic MFF students deploy their chutes at 4,000 feet and the instructors deploy theirs’ at 2,500 feet.
The third week, jumps are conducted with the student also wearing a rucksack, a weapon(usually an M-4) and progressively through the third week, higher altitude jumps up to 17,500 feet with oxygen and practice with grouping in the sky, Reyes said.
Anytime someone jumps more than 13,000 feet above sea level they must use oxygen, Reyes added.
The fourth week is night week for the basic MFF students, which culminates with two “final exam” jumps at night at approximately 12,500 feet, with rucksack, weapon and oxygen.

Safety

“The main chute is packed by the jumper, whether the jumper is a student or instructor,” Reyes said.
The parachute’s deployment takes from five to eight seconds from pull to canopy,” added Sims.
“The instructor’s reserve is packed for a fast opening at lower altitudes and is packed only by a certified FAA[Federal Aviation Administration] [Master] Rigger and is repacked and inspected every 120 days regardless if it was used or not,” Reyes said. “The student’s reserve is packed by the MFF Schools assigned Army Parachute Riggers.”
Both sets of riggers, who are all former MFF School instructors, work as part of the MFF School’s Aerial Life Support Equipment Mechanics team.
The ALSEM team also maintains the reserve chute deployment system automatic opening device, called the

cybernetic parachute release system, repairs and maintains the wear and tear on the chutes - making patches, sewing when needed and doing blow tests with air to see how a chute is holding up, Sims said.
The MFF School is an Army school so the students learn using the Army’s free fall system the MC-4, Sims said, even though when a student goes back to their units, that student’s military service branch might have a slightly different version of the MC-4 that they use.
“But, when the students leave here, they should be able to put on any type of parachute system and be able to function,” Sims said.
Free fall vs. airborne
The difference in landing the squared parachutes in the MC-4 system and the standard circular airborne parachutes is: the rate of descent of the airborne T-10 parachute is 22 to 24 feet per second causing a strong

landing impact.
“The rate of descent for the MC-4 is 14-16 feet per second, three feet of forward movement for every foot of descent at a speed of 20-30 mph at full flight,” Reyes said.
“This can be altered by the jumper while using the toggles and maneuvering the canopy at a faster or slower rate. This can’t be done with the round canopies.”
Also, with a Ram Air Parachute System, Sims compared the softer landing to an airplane landing, and the chute to an airplane wing.
The chute is planing off the sky, more like an airplane wing, always facing into the wind, Sims said. This is like when a plane lands on the runway, the flaps are put out and the nose is up, tail down.
The RAPS acts similar, as air is rammed or flows into the risers in the front of the chute, causing a slowing affect, a controlled braking and a gentle soft landing, Sims added.



Photo by Spc. Matthew E. Chlosta

All Basic Military Free Fall School students, including Air Force Staff Sgt. Chuck Rushing, Detachment 5, 10th Combat Weather, Fort Bragg, N.C., must sit in the same jumping order on the ground as they do in the plane, so the MFFS instructors can track and instruct the students by their assigned numbers.

Infiltration

“Basically this [MFF] is just an infiltration technique,” Hedges said. “The mission of the MFF School is, to train special operations from all branches of the services and foreign NCOs [noncommissioned officers] and officers for HAHO and HALO operations for infiltration techniques.

“Free fall is high risk training that we teach to help higher commands to best support the battlefield,” Hedges said.
The school is run by the U.S. Army’s John F. Kennedy Special Warfare Center’s Company B, 2nd Battalion, 1st Special Warfare Training Group.

OSHA honors agency

VPP STAR Award goes to post contractors

KELLOGG, BROWN AND ROOT
NEWS RELEASE

Kellogg Brown and Root Project Logistics contractor, directorate of installation support, will receive the Occupational Safety and Health Administration’s VPP STAR award, in recognition of the project’s health and safety program. In addition to being the first in the history of Fort Huachuca, this achievement is unique and historical in many ways.

- Currently, of the more than three million OSHA covered workplaces in the United States, a little more than 1000 have received the VPP recognition. A smaller

number of these have attained the prestigious “STAR” level.

- KBR is the only contractor on an U.S. Army installation in the world that has both the ISO 9001:2000 recognition for its quality management system and the federal OSHA VPP STAR recognition of its health and safety management system.
- KBR is proven to be one of the most effective employers in the nation in protecting workers’ health and safety.
- KBR is one of only two federal VPP sites in the state of Arizona, and is one of only three federal VPP STAR sites in OSHA Region IX, which covers Arizona, California, Hawaii, Nevada, Guam and American Samoa.

KBR will celebrate this achievement 11 a.m. today in Building 74914 on Carter Street.

FRAUD, from Page 3

directs the user to click a link that appears to be the Visa Web site, but is actually a fake mirror image. Entering personal information into that site could result in identity theft. Note that no one from Visa banks will ever call or e-mail a cardholder and ask for an account number or other personal information. Thus far, this action has been targeted at government travel cardholders.

- Information warns of a potential scam whereas unknown callers falsely identify themselves as bank employees working with the government charge card program. The scam operators claim to be checking suspicious card activity and may ask for account numbers, social security numbers, and other personal information. Be aware that bank employees would not take these actions. The Area/ Organization Program Coordinator should be the only person requesting this type of information.
- Never give your card number over the phone unless you initiated the call and can verify the recipient.
- Never place orders with your card over an unsecured web-page (always look for the locked

lock at the bottom of the page).

- Never allow anyone else to make charges with your card.
- Never leave your card or bills unattended on your desk.
- Consider who is within hearing distance when verbally giving your account number.
- Shield your account number and card from view whenever possible.
- Refrain from sending e-mail with your account number and expiration date - if you do send your account number via e-mail, only supply the last eight digits of the account number.

Cardholders should report any attempts to get any information from them to the A/OPC and to the bank (800 number on the back of the credit card) as soon as they occur.

If you have questions on this or feel that you have been a victim of fraud, call the GPC team, at 533-2478. If you have questions on the Travel Card you’ll need to contact your individual unit point of contact.